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Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable CHRISTOPHER MURPHY, a Senator from the State of Connecticut.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Lord of history, strong to save, remind us that You are not an indifferent spectator to the progress and pathology in our world. Help us, dear God, to view our world as You see it, becoming Your ambassadors of reconciliation. Empower us to love our enemies, to bless those who curse us, and to pray for those who maliciously use us.

Today, guide our Senators through all their deliberations, keeping ever before them the vision of a better world that is yet to be. May they work for justice and peace, advancing Your kingdom on Earth.

Sustain us all with the knowledge that our prayers are not in vain.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, April 28, 2014.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable CHRISTOPHER MURPHY, a Senator from the State of Connecticut, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. MURPHY thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

MINIMUM WAGE FAIRNESS ACT— MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 354, S. 2223.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 354, S. 2223, a bill to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage and to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend increased expensing limitations and the treatment of certain real property as section 179 property.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have a cloture motion at the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 354, S. 2223, a bill to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage and to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend increased expensing limitations and the treatment of certain real property as section 179 property.

Harry Reid, Tom Harkin, Jeff Merkley,
Patrick J. Leahy, Cory A. Booker, Elizabeth Warren, Jack Reed, Richard J.

Durbin, Benjamin L. Cardin, Thomas R. Carper, Christopher A. Coons, Bill Nelson, Al Franken, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Sheldon Whitehouse, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Bernard Sanders.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks and those of the Republican leader, if any, the Senate will be in morning business until 5:30 p.m., with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees.

At 5:30 p.m. there will be up to four rollcall votes. The first vote will be on the confirmation of the Friedland nomination to be a U.S. circuit judge for the Ninth Circuit. The next vote will be a cloture vote on the Weil nomination to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor, and then a confirmation vote on the Weil nomination. The last vote will be a vote on confirmation of the O'Regan nomination to be Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

SEEMINGLY REAL

Mr. REID. Mr. President, Nevada, and especially Las Vegas, is home to the best entertainment on the planet. Those who visit Las Vegas and Reno know they will find the best musical, theatrical, and comedic performances anyplace on Earth. Some of the most popular performers in Nevada are magicians and illusionists who entertain their audiences by making the impossible seem real. Through misdirection, these performers distract viewers from what they know to be true and instead funnel their attention to something entertaining—and it is really fake.

It seems that the Republican party has decided to follow in Houdini and Copperfield's footsteps and employ a

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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